

# QUESTIONS BOOKLET



## GRADE 12 DIPLOMA EXAMINATION

English 30

Part B: Reading (Multiple Choice)

June 1987

**Alberta**  
EDUCATION

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**GRADE 12 DIPLOMA EXAMINATION  
ENGLISH 30**

**PART B: Reading (Multiple Choice)**

**QUESTIONS BOOKLET**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Part B of the English 30 Diploma Examination has 80 questions in the Questions Booklet and 10 reading selections in the Readings Booklet.

**BE SURE THAT YOU HAVE AN ENGLISH 30 QUESTIONS BOOKLET AND AN ENGLISH 30 READINGS BOOKLET.**

**YOU WILL HAVE 2 HOURS TO COMPLETE THIS EXAMINATION.**

You may **NOT** use a dictionary, thesaurus, or other reference materials.

On the **ANSWER SHEET** provided, use HB pencil **ONLY** to mark the **CORRECT** or **BEST** answer for each question as shown in the example below.

**Example**

Which month has 31 days?

- A.** February
- B.** April
- C.** November
- D.** December

**Answer Sheet**

A	B	C	D
①	②	③	●

Mark only one answer for each question. If you change an answer, erase your first mark completely. Answer all questions.

**JUNE 1987**

PART B: Reading Comprehension (30 marks)

QUESTIONS 1-10 (10 marks)

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Read the English 30 Reading Comprehension passage in the classroom.  
Answer the reading questions in the Reading Booklet.

BE SURE THAT YOU HAVE AN ENGLISH 30 QUESTIONS BOOKLET AND AN  
ENGLISH 30 READING BOOKLET.

YOU WILL HAVE 1 HOUR TO COMPLETE THE EXAMINATION.

You may use a dictionary during the examination.

DO NOT WRITE OR SHREDDER ANYTHING ON THE READING BOOKLET.

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Answer Sheet

A 1 2 3  
B 4 5 6

Example

Which month has 31 days?

- A. January
- B. June
- C. December
- D. February

Mark your answer on the answer sheet. If you change an answer, cross out the  
old answer and write the new answer.

JUNE 1997

DO NOT WRITE OR SHREDDER ANYTHING ON THE READING BOOKLET.  
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- I. Read the excerpt from *As I Walked Out One Midsummer Morning* on pages 1 and 2 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 1 to 8.**
1. That the narrator leaves home on a “bright Sunday morning in early June” (line 8) is appropriate because
- A. he must travel far before dark
  - B. he is continuing the family customs
  - C. the setting enhances his optimistic beginnings
  - D. the end of school marked a milestone in his life
2. When the narrator says that he knew he “had far to go; but not, as yet, how far” (lines 19-20) he reveals his
- A. naivety about life
  - B. fear of the unknown
  - C. failure to make plans
  - D. limited travel experience
3. The words that BEST reflect the cause behind the narrator’s urge to leave home are
- A. tight, stifling, narrowing
  - B. restless, wandering, whistling
  - C. farewell, questioning, blessing
  - D. confident, excited, vainglorious
4. The mood created by the imagery in lines 36 to 44 is supported by the phrase
- A. “growing reluctance” (line 38)
  - B. “waste and indifference” (line 40)
  - C. “offering no resistance” (line 41)
  - D. “opposition or rescue” (lines 42-43)
5. The narrator does not flee from his first experience with freedom (lines 55-56) MAINLY because of his
- A. resourcefulness
  - B. confidence
  - C. ambitions
  - D. pride

*Continued*

6. During the span of time between the narrator's departure and his awakening (line 65), his feelings change from
- A. courage to terror
  - B. confidence to fear
  - C. pride to humiliation
  - D. eagerness to depression
7. The phrase "the sky black and the stars all gone" (lines 65-66) reinforces the narrator's
- A. experience of loneliness
  - B. confusion about his destiny
  - C. emotional response to nature
  - D. awareness of his unique situation
8. The MAIN purpose of the last sentence is to reveal the narrator's
- A. reluctance to leave a familiar scene
  - B. renewed resolve to continue his journey
  - C. determination to overcome his background
  - D. response to his physical discomfort and homesickness

**II. Read “Horsepower” on page 3 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 9 to 15.**

9. The expression “pompous pity” (line 8) suggests an attitude of
- A. condescension
  - B. indifference
  - C. hypocrisy
  - D. sympathy
10. The images in lines 17 and 18 are amusing MAINLY because of the
- A. gigantic stature of horses
  - B. ludicrous traffic congestion
  - C. reversal of priority and power
  - D. power struggle between horses and machines
11. Saying “Horses have become sophisticated; they trot haughtily around suburban paddocks” (lines 19-20) is another way of gently ridiculing people who
- A. are wealthy
  - B. put on airs
  - C. live on small farms
  - D. are intellectually superior
12. That horses are “obligatory ornaments for acreages” (line 21) suggests that the horses are
- A. status symbols
  - B. attractive additions
  - C. expensive necessities
  - D. recreational requirements

*Continued*

13. Why would hobby farmers be “sneered back to the inner city” (line 23) if they did not own horses?
- A. They would no longer be entitled to pasture land.
  - B. They would be lacking the necessary image requirements.
  - C. They would not be regarded as competent, active farmers.
  - D. They would be criticized for yielding to the efficiency of machines.
14. The poet’s purpose in this poem is to
- A. praise horses
  - B. praise the work ethic
  - C. criticize mechanization
  - D. criticize the nouveau riche
15. Which statement BEST expresses the main idea of this poem?
- A. Mechanization has limitations.
  - B. Simple rural living enhances happiness.
  - C. Superficial status is acquired through possessions.
  - D. Upper class people have earned their privileges.

**III. Read the scene from *The Tragedy of Coriolanus* on pages 4 and 5 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 16 to 23.**

16. In the context of the scene, the words “fob off” (line 6) mean
- A. forget
  - B. tolerate
  - C. diminish
  - D. disapprove
17. The statement “There was a time when all the body’s members / Rebell’d against the belly” (lines 8-9) infers that prior to this scene there has been
- A. a summation of public need
  - B. an expression of public approval
  - C. an expression of public dissension
  - D. a demonstration of public purpose
18. From the context of this scene, we infer that when Agrippa addresses the citizen as “good friend” (line 37), his manner is
- A. insensitive
  - B. patronizing
  - C. indifferent
  - D. defensive
19. In lines 40 to 50 Agrippa uses the analogy of the belly to show the
- A. leniency of the Senate
  - B. necessity of the Senate
  - C. efficiency of the Senate
  - D. frustration of the Senate
20. The citizen BEST expresses his impatience with Agrippa’s explanation in
- A. “Well, sir, what answer made the belly?” (line 18)
  - B. “You’re long about it.” (line 36)
  - C. “It was an answer: how apply you this?” (line 58)
  - D. “I the great toe? Why the great toe?” (line 67)

*Continued*

21. When Agrippa says “digest things rightly / Touching the weal o’ the common” (lines 61-62) he means
- A. gather input from community members
  - B. examine clearly matters of public welfare
  - C. make impartial judgments while in power
  - D. understand the reason for government action
22. When Agrippa refers to the citizens’ unrest as “this most wise rebellion” (line 69) his speaking manner should convey
- A. humor
  - B. remorse
  - C. sarcasm
  - D. sincerity
23. The extended metaphor used by Agrippa illustrates the
- A. separation of social classes
  - B. apathy of the upper classes
  - C. tolerance of the lower classes
  - D. interdependence of social classes

**IV. Read the excerpt from *Antigone* on pages 6 to 9 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 24 to 33.**

- 24.** Creon's initial assumption about Antigone (lines 9-15) is that she
- A.** will submit to his authority
  - B.** has not understood his edict
  - C.** is an irrational, impulsive child
  - D.** sees herself as immune to royal sanctions
- 25.** Creon's respect for Antigone's wisdom is **MOST CLEARLY** revealed in
- A.** “*Kings*, my girl, have other things to do than to surrender themselves to their private feelings.” (lines 32-33)
  - B.** “I have always been fond of you, stubborn though you always were.” (lines 39-40)
  - C.** “Antigone, don't you realize that if . . . a single soul finds out what you have tried to do, it will be impossible for me to avoid putting you to death?” (lines 46-48)
  - D.** “It is vile; and I can tell you what I wouldn't tell anybody else: it's stupid, monstrously stupid.” (lines 58-59)
- 26.** In lines 59 to 63 Creon's attitude toward his subjects can be described as one of
- A.** exasperation
  - B.** amazement
  - C.** suspicion
  - D.** loyalty
- 27.** Antigone suggests that Creon, in his lust for power, (lines 67-77) has become
- A.** oblivious to moral integrity
  - B.** mighty, but spiritually discontented
  - C.** victorious, but hardened to loss of life
  - D.** remote from the concerns of the common man

*Continued*

28. Antigone refuses to say yes (line 74) because she does not wish to sacrifice the
- A. liberty to voice her opinions
  - B. control over her family's regulations
  - C. harmony in her forthcoming marriage
  - D. freedom to act according to her principles
29. The idea that Creon tries to establish in lines 106 to 113 is that
- A. it is natural to respond affirmatively to life
  - B. animals survive because of the herd instinct
  - C. it is impossible to escape the tedium of life
  - D. animals surpass man in their willingness to endure hardship
30. Creon insists on upholding his edict that Polynices remain unburied because Creon
- A. despises what Polynices has done
  - B. resents the challenge to his authority
  - C. wants to establish authority over his subjects
  - D. wants to teach Antigone a lesson in humility
31. Creon's attitude toward Antigone's determination can BEST be described as a mixture of
- A. apathy and arrogance
  - B. sympathy and disgust
  - C. concern and frustration
  - D. intolerance and resentment
32. Antigone is contemptuous of Creon's decision because he
- A. refuses to compromise his principles
  - B. displays a grim, pessimistic outlook on life
  - C. acts according to political rather than ethical concerns
  - D. acts in his own interests rather than those of the state
33. Antigone prefers death to the life that Creon offers her because
- A. she is determined to exercise her freedom to rebel
  - B. her youth makes her unaware of life's future rewards
  - C. she is seeking the immortality that her execution would bring
  - D. her happiness is dependent upon her maintaining moral integrity

**V. Read “Poured Pyramids” on pages 10 and 11 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 34 to 40.**

- 34.** The description of the B-grade biblical movies (lines 1-5) is effective because the author uses
- A.** analogy
  - B.** antithesis
  - C.** visual imagery
  - D.** archaic language
- 35.** Davidovits’ theory (paragraph 3) lacks cinematographic appeal because
- A.** theatre-goers prefer B-grade movies
  - B.** theatre-goers prefer fantasy to realism
  - C.** the romance of heroic struggle is gone
  - D.** the emphasis on laboratory research is not exciting
- 36.** The words that BEST reflect the contrast between the two theories about pyramid building are
- A.** stung and stirred
  - B.** strain and moved
  - C.** hauling and scurried
  - D.** tormented and toting
- 37.** In line 35 the phrase “their *in situ* counterparts” refers to
- A.** rocks in the ancient quarries
  - B.** mechanically-produced cement
  - C.** rocks in the ancient pyramids
  - D.** geopolymerized cement blocks
- 38.** According to Davidovits’ theory, the pyramid-building period ended because the ancient Egyptians
- A.** depleted the supply of catalysts
  - B.** learned how to make geopolymerized cement
  - C.** exhausted the slaves needed for transportation
  - D.** became less meticulous in the craft of masonry

*Continued*

39. One of the assumptions about the Egyptian pyramids that Davidovits' theory challenges is the
- A. religious purpose of the pyramids
  - B. shortage of nonrenewable resources
  - C. impressive accomplishments of the Egyptians
  - D. transportation of 2½ million stones in a lifetime
40. The practical application of Davidovits' theory is MAINLY that
- A. developing countries may use available resources
  - B. our existing ideas may be modified by new information
  - C. our technology may be appropriate for developing countries
  - D. new theories may be developed by examining old technologies

**VI. Read “Cassandra with a Tail” on pages 12 and 13 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 41 to 47.**

- 41.** The figure of speech that BEST serves to establish the cat’s function is
- A. “twirled a signature / on the sky” (lines 7-8)
  - B. “jumped out of her skin” (line 14)
  - C. “shot up like a bottle brush” (line 16)
  - D. “wailing like an ambulance” (line 18)
- 42.** The word “oracular” (line 24) suggests
- A. an ability to view life clearly
  - B. the delivery of an eloquent speech
  - C. the foretelling of events by supernatural means
  - D. a feeling that seems to surround an individual
- 43.** The “miracle” in line 26 refers to the cat’s
- A. escape from harm
  - B. gift of clairvoyance
  - C. message of comfort
  - D. search for understanding
- 44.** The speaker’s actions in lines 29 to 31 suggest that she is
- A. enraged
  - B. terrified
  - C. confused
  - D. remorseful
- 45.** The mood of the poem changes from tranquility to
- A. apprehension
  - B. cunning
  - C. surprise
  - D. anger

*Continued*

46. The line that BEST illustrates the theme is
- A. “None of us understood the cat’s prophecy.” (line 21)
  - B. “But her miracle stayed with me.” (line 26)
  - C. “Grab what you can.” (line 34)
  - D. “Listen. *No one listens*. Meow.” (line 43)
47. The human frailty that the speaker finds MOST distressful is
- A. stupidity in the manufacture of weapons
  - B. complacency about warnings of disaster
  - C. obliviousness to potential for terrorism
  - D. resistance to changing values

**VII. Read “To Err Is Human” on pages 14 and 15 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 48 to 54.**

- 48.** The phrase “guilty letters from the same computer, saying, ‘Our computer was in error,’ ” (lines 7-8) is an example of
- A.** irony
  - B.** allusion
  - C.** symbolism
  - D.** exaggeration
- 49.** When the author states that “real thinking, and dreaming, are other matters,” (line 24) he means that
- A.** computers have little difficulty with abstractions
  - B.** computers can be programmed to calculate a range of results
  - C.** individuals are losing their intellectual and fantasizing capabilities
  - D.** individual awareness comprises more than merely processing information
- 50.** The statement “it is a lucky day, and a lucky laboratory [when] somebody makes a mistake” (lines 37-38) implies that mistakes
- A.** confirm our initial approach
  - B.** reveal our slipshod procedures
  - C.** permit us to consider various possibilities
  - D.** provide us with many interesting diversions
- 51.** The author’s attitude toward multiplicity of choice is **MOST STRONGLY** expressed in
- A.** “rolling their eyes in the effort to concentrate” (line 23)
  - B.** “we could never get anything useful done” (line 31)
  - C.** “something is obviously screwed up” (lines 41-42)
  - D.** “dancing with our minds” (line 47)

*Continued*

52. The author recommends that we “give the computers their heads” (line 64) because the computer’s
- A. programmer lacks technological inspiration
  - B. range of error surpasses that of human beings
  - C. operator has an altered view of communication
  - D. mechanical perfection is suited to solving human problems
53. The potential for error to be positive is realized through our
- A. inability to organize information
  - B. refusal to follow our consciences
  - C. dedication to study probable consequences
  - D. commitment to explore alternate possibilities
54. Which statement BEST expresses the main idea of the essay?
- A. Mistakes are dangerous.
  - B. Perfection is unattainable.
  - C. Computers are threatening.
  - D. Infallibility leads to stagnation.

**VIII. Read the excerpt from “Poetry” on pages 16 and 17 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 55 to 62.**

55. In lines 3 to 9 the author contends that “plain” poetry is unappealing because it
- A. is tedious to read
  - B. lacks emotional power
  - C. lacks intellectual quality
  - D. is difficult to understand
56. According to the author the intensity of poetry is achieved by
- A. order
  - B. rhythm
  - C. symbolism
  - D. compression
57. In the context of lines 35 to 42, a “bauble” is
- A. glittering and gaudy
  - B. beautiful but misshapen
  - C. delightful but inappropriate
  - D. confusing and irrelevant
58. The author’s admission that he is jealous of poets (line 43) suggests MAINLY his
- A. insecurity
  - B. frustration
  - C. admiration
  - D. resentment
59. When the author states “few poets are willing to wait out their pregnancy” (lines 47-48), he means that few poets
- A. are conscientious craftsmen
  - B. are satisfied with their writing
  - C. adhere consistently to their task
  - D. accept the importance of reflection

*Continued*

60. The author's comment that "poets could be a little clearer and still not get over onto ground which is unsuitably solid" (lines 62-63) suggests that the poet's craft demands
- A. precision
  - B. simplicity
  - C. meditation
  - D. scholarship
61. The author's actions of biting his pencil and staring at his marked calendar (lines 64-65) indicate that he
- A. desires immortality
  - B. values his own writing
  - C. recognizes his own constraints
  - D. deplores the vagueness of poets
62. The statement that BEST expresses the main idea of this excerpt is
- A. "A poet dares be just so clear and no clearer." (lines 5-6)
  - B. "Poetry is intensity, and nothing is intense for long." (line 16)
  - C. "Diligence in a poet is the same as dishonesty in a bookkeeper." (lines 45-46)
  - D. "To be one hundred per cent roundabout one must be pure genius — and nobody is that good." (lines 60-61)

**IX. Read “Madam Chairman, Honored Guests” on page 18 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 63 to 70.**

- 63.** The description of the politicians seated with “folded arms” on “folding chairs” (lines 3-4) serves to
- A. contrast the attitudes of the audience and the politicians
  - B. focus on the uncomfortable chairs provided for the politicians
  - C. communicate the lack of interest on the part of the politicians
  - D. contrast the seating arrangements of the children and the politicians
- 64.** Each person described as “someone important who couldn’t come but wanted to be here” (lines 5-6) refers to a
- A. child’s friend
  - B. child’s parent
  - C. politician’s friend
  - D. politician’s superior
- 65.** In context the word “pre-fab” (line 10) means
- A. fluent
  - B. clichéd
  - C. polished
  - D. monotonous
- 66.** The word “assembly” (line 11) refers to the
- A. translation of speeches
  - B. gathering of politicians
  - C. event and the gestures of the interpreter
  - D. event and the structure of the politicians’ speeches
- 67.** The word “warm-heartening” (line 12) is a deliberate play on the word
- A. heart-warming
  - B. warm-hearted
  - C. disheartening
  - D. heart-rending

*Continued*

68. The use of the word “warm-heartening” (line 12) is an example of
- A. an expression of empathy
  - B. a damaged pre-fab phrase
  - C. an expression of admiration
  - D. a difficult-to-translate phrase
69. The speaker’s attitude toward politicians is MAINLY
- A. disdain
  - B. objectivity
  - C. amazement
  - D. indifference
70. The line break between “we’re told” (line 13) and “the interpreter” (line 14) assists the transition from the
- A. act of speaking to the act of listening
  - B. effect of the words to the effect of the gestures
  - C. purpose of hearing to the purpose of understanding
  - D. process of generalizing to the process of specifying

- X. Read the excerpt from “The Right Cheek” on pages 19 to 21 of your Readings Booklet and answer questions 71 to 80.**
- 71.** In saying “The age of reason wasn’t for us” (line 3), the narrator means that the
- A.** father did not approve of rational behavior
  - B.** children could not understand the father’s thought process
  - C.** children did not consider challenging their father’s method of child rearing
  - D.** father did not acknowledge the development of independent judgment in his offspring
- 72.** According to the narrator, the basis for the “father’s injustice” (line 4) is his
- A.** sullen attitude
  - B.** vengeful nature
  - C.** continuous distrust
  - D.** emotional detachment
- 73.** The children’s manipulation of their father is **MOST CLEARLY** illustrated by
- A.** “A punished child remains guilty.” (lines 10-11)
  - B.** “We had the answers down pat.” (line 50)
  - C.** “He was really the only child among us . . .” (line 61)
  - D.** “ ‘But it’s the same thing every year.’ ” (line 113)
- 74.** In lines 86 to 95 the humor of the situation is the result of
- A.** contrast
  - B.** repetition
  - C.** exposition
  - D.** description

*Continued*

75. The father's MOST DEVIOUS exploitation of his family is illustrated by his
- A. demands at mealtime
  - B. overt jealousy during Lent
  - C. cutting holes in his socks
  - D. attempts to hypnotize them
76. The narrator's tongue-in-cheek attitude toward her father is shown by
- A. "... he refused to see that we had outgrown our childhood." (line 32)
  - B. "... he who was the wisest, strongest, bravest, purest, smartest and most humble of all." (lines 56-57)
  - C. "... we knew the price there was to pay for the slightest neglect." (line 77)
  - D. "... it made him acutely jealous of us . . . ." (line 108)
77. The father's petulance is MOST CLEARLY revealed by
- A. "'Where did you learn that tune? Don't lie.' " (lines 45-46)
  - B. "'Were you thinking about something dirty? Don't lie.' " (line 49)
  - C. "'This meal wasn't enough for me. Fry me some eggs.' " (line 94)
  - D. "'Carrots *à la poulette*. You never make them when I'm eating.' " (line 111)
78. The narrator's acceptance of her father's idiosyncrasies is MOST CLEARLY suggested by
- A. "... indulgence perhaps — of the same kind one feels towards some young scamp in the street who tries to show off to the passersby." (lines 63-65)
  - B. "Through the open door, we could sometimes see him . . . painstakingly occupied at this modest task." (lines 78-86)
  - C. "— no matter what trouble we took, he always found something missing." (lines 84-85)
  - D. "... such privations . . . at least made him seem less young, and he decided to cut out the penance." (lines 126-128)

Continued

79. The BEST explanation for the father's behavior is his

- A. egotism
- B. escapism
- C. impatience
- D. impertinence

80. The children were able to laugh about their father MAINLY because they

- A. were united in their coping strategies
- B. scoffed at his old-fashioned ideas
- C. had different personality traits
- D. enjoyed his peculiarities



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